

REMARKS

The Official Action dated November 1, 2006, has been carefully considered. Consideration of the changes and remarks presented herein and reconsideration of the rejections are respectfully requested. Claims 1, 5, 8 and 13-15 have been amended. Claim 17 has been added. Support for the amendments can be found in the specification and claims as originally filed (for example, see page 5, lines 13-20 and Fig. 5). It is believed that these changes do not involve any introduction of new matter, and thereby entry is believed to be in order and is respectfully requested. Claims 1, 3 and 5-16 remain in the application for consideration.

In the Official Action, claims 1, 3 and 5-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barger et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,562,142) in view of Heskett et al (U.S. Patent No. 3,675,777). The Examiner asserts that Barger et al disclose the claimed invention with the exception of the recited connector structure. The Examiner relies on Heskett et al to disclose connecting a replaceable filter cartridge to a hollow protrusion (13) in a fluid treatment system with a sealing structure having a flexible angled tapered portion (17), and an insertion aid (18). The Examiner asserts that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide the sprayer assembly of Barger et al with the sealing structure of Heskett et al in order to provide the advantages disclosed in Heskett et al.

However, as will be set forth in detail below, it is submitted that the sprayer purifier cartridge systems as defined by claims 1, 3 and 5-16 are nonobvious and patentably distinguishable over Barger et al in view of Heskett et al. Accordingly, this rejection is traversed and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Barger et al disclose a system and method for cleaning and/or treating surfaces by using a cleaning composition that contains at least one water-soluble or water dispersible copolymer

(abstract). Barger et al generally disclose a spray device (see Figs. 1 and 2).

Heskett et al disclose a fluid treating cartridge adapted to be employed with a fluid treating apparatus in which a fluid-tight seal is required between the fluid treating element and a tube which projects coaxially into a central bore within the element (abstract).

Barger et al fail to teach or suggest a sprayer purifier cartridge system as recited in independent claims 1 and 15. As noted by the Examiner, Barger et al fail to teach the connector structure between the sprayer and the cartridge. As such, Barger et al fails to render the presently claimed sprayer purifier cartridge system obvious. Moreover, the combination of Barger et al with Heskett et al does not overcome this deficiency.

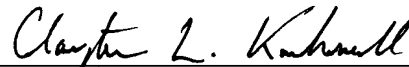
References relied upon to support a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103 must provide an enabling disclosure, i.e., they must place the claimed invention in the possession of the public. *Glaxo Inc. v. Novopharm Ltd.*, 34 U.S.P.Q.2d, 1565 (Fed. Cir. 1995); *In re Payne*, 203 U.S.P.Q. 245 (CCPA 1979). Heskett et al also fails to teach or suggest the structure of the purifier cartridge having an outer surface with at least two openings and at least two raised rings, wherein the rings are configured to guide the receiving structure and wherein an integral portion of said rings extends radially inward toward the center of each of the openings. Rather, Heskett et al teach a system where a tube (receiving structure) is inserted into a opening of a filter, such the filter has no raised rings disposed outside of the filter configured to receive and guide the tube (see Figs. 2-3). In fact, the end of the tube is beveled so that it can be received more easily by the filter (Figs. 2-3). Therefore, even if one skilled in the art would not have been motivated to combine the teachings of Heskett et al with Barger et al as asserted by the Examiner, such a combination does not result in the presently claimed system because the filter device in Heskett et al do not have raised rings disposed on the outer surface of the filter configured to guide a receiving structure. Thus, Barger et al in combination with Heskett et al fails to teach the present

sprayer purifier cartridge systems as recited in the present application.

As such, Applicants contend that Barger et al in combination with Heskett et al do not support a rejection of claims 1, 3 and 5-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Applicants therefore submit that the 35 U.S.C. § 103 rejection of the presently claimed sprayer purifier cartridge systems of claims 1, 3 and 5-16 over Barger et al in view of Heskett et al has been overcome. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

It is believed that the above amendments and remarks represent a complete response to the objections and rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103, and as such, place the present application having claims 1, 3 and 5-16 in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and an early allowance are requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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